

KANGAROO COURTS

Now let me say a few words about the so-called military commissions. I have a little handout out there called "Kangaroo Courts." It would take me a whole law review article to go through all the problems with military commissions. I have been interviewed quite extensively. I have some comments on it in my book. Professor Jordan Paust, a friend and colleague of mine at the University of Houston, just published an article in the Michigan Journal of International Law which I would encourage you to read. It goes through the major problems. But basically there are two treaties on point here that are being violated at a minimum.

First, the Third Geneva Convention of 1949. I will not go through all of the arguments here but it is clear that just about everyone down in Guantanamo (not counting the guys who were picked up in Bosnia and basically kidnapped) but all those apprehended over in Afghanistan and Pakistan would qualify as prisoners of war within the meaning of the Third Geneva Convention of 1949, and therefore have all the rights of prisoners of war within the meaning of that convention. Right now however, as you know, all those rights are being denied. This is a serious war crime. And unfortunately President Bush, Jr. himself has incriminated himself under the Third Geneva Convention by signing the order setting up these military commissions. Not only has he incriminated himself under the Third Geneva Convention, but he has incriminated himself under the U.S. War Crimes Act of 1996 or so, signed into law by President Clinton and making it a serious felony for any United States citizen either to violate or order the violation of the Four Geneva Conventions of 1949.

THE FEDERALIST SOCIETY CABAL

I am not personally criticizing President Bush. He is not a lawyer. He was terribly advised, criminally mis-advised, by the cabal of Federalist Society lawyers that the Bush administration has assembled at the White House and the Department of Injustice under Ashcroft. President Bush, Jr., by signing this order, has opened himself up to prosecution anywhere in the world for violating the Third Geneva Convention, and certainly if there is evidence to believe that any of these individuals have been tortured, which is grave breach, let alone at the end of the day executed. So this is a very serious matter.

I did not vote for President Bush, Jr. But I certainly think it is a tragedy that these Federalist Society lawyers got the President of the United States of America, who is not a lawyer, to sign the order that would incriminate him under the Geneva Conventions and United States Domestic Criminal Law. This is what happened.

JEOPARDIZING U.S. ARMED FORCES

Moreover, by us stating we will not apply the Third Geneva Convention to these people we opened up United States armed forces to be denied protection under the Third Geneva Convention. And as you know, we now have U.S. armed forces in operation in Afghanistan, Georgia, the Philippines, in Yemen and perhaps in Iraq. Basically Bush's position will be jeopardizing their ability to claim prisoner of war status. All that has to happen is our adversaries say they are unlawful combatants and we will not give you prisoner of war status. The Third Geneva Convention is one of the few protections U.S. armed forces have when they go into battle. Bush, Jr. and his Federalist Society lawyers just pulled the rug out from under them.

U.S. POLICE STATE

In addition the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights clearly applies down in Guantanamo. It applies any time in-

dividuals are under the jurisdiction of the United States of America. Guantanamo is a colonial enclave, I will not go through its status any further. But clearly those individuals are subject to our jurisdiction and have the rights set forth therein—which are currently being denied.

If and when many of these Bush, Ashcroft, Gonzalez police state practices make their way to the U.S. Supreme Court, we have to consider that a five to four majority of the Supreme Court gave the presidency to Bush, Jr. What is going to stop that same five to four majority from giving Bush, Jr. a police state? The only thing that is going to stop it is the people in this room.

RECOGNIZING WATERFORD OUR LADY OF THE LAKES HIGH SCHOOL

HON. THADDEUS G. MCCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 30, 2011

Mr. MCCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge the Michigan Class D State Championship Girls' Basketball team from Waterford Our Lady of the Lakes High School. On March 19, 2011, the Lakers sealed a 53-35 victory over the Bark-River Harris Broncos, clinching their second consecutive Class D State Championship under Head Coach Steve Robak.

After winning the East Division of the Detroit Catholic High School League and claiming their third consecutive CHSL C-D Division Championship, the Lakers began district play by crushing West Bloomfield Frankel Jewish Academy's Jaguars 72-4. Our Lady of the Lakes rolled over the Clarkston Everest Collegiate Lady Mountaineers in the district final, 64-20.

Moving on to regional match-ups, Our Lady of the Lakes slipped by Marine City Cardinal Mooney by a score of 43-41. The Lakers shut down Southfield Christian, 51-43 in the regional final to move on to state quarterfinals where they defeated the Bay City All Saints Cougars 61-36. The Trojans of Central Lake fell to the Blue and White 52-41 on March 17 to clear the Lakers path to the Class D Final. Facing Bark-Harris in the final game of the season, the Our Lady of the Lakes press held the Broncos in check giving the Lakers the right to raise high the Class D State Championship trophy.

Mr. Speaker, with a season record of 23-5-0, the 2011 Waterford Our Lady of the Lakes Girls' Basketball team deserves to be recognized for their determination, achievement, spirit and effort. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Lakers for obtaining this spectacular title and in honoring their devotion to our community and country.

HONORING COUNCIL MEMBER HAL MALKIN

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 30, 2011

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Hal Malkin and his 17 years of public service to the peo-

ple of La Mirada, California. Hal and his wife Barbara have called La Mirada home since 1972. Hal began the first of his five terms on the La Mirada City Council in 1994.

Since taking office in 1994, Hal has worked tirelessly to ensure La Mirada remains safe for its residents and economically vibrant for its business community. Under his tenure, La Mirada has seen the creation of various city resources such as the Frontier Community Building, the La Mirada Resource Center, and the widely popular SPLASH! Complex. While many cities throughout Southern California have felt the impact of a struggling economy, La Mirada has remained fiscally sound without sacrificing important community services, due in large part to Hal's foresight. It's frankly no surprise La Mirada was listed by CNN and others as one of the "Best Place to Live" in 2007.

Over the years, Hal's civic involvement has extended into his community where he proudly served as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Rio Hondo Chapter of the American Red Cross and as a member of the Executive Committee for 9 years.

As an active leader in his community, Hal has received several awards including Outstanding Faculty Member, Cerritos College 2002-2003; Member of the Year, La Mirada Chamber of Commerce; and the Parent-Teacher Association Honorary Service Award.

Hal has continuously demonstrated his dedication to his profession, community, and family. Today, Hal continues to open the doors of the educational opportunity to local youth as an Associate Professor and Department Chair of the Pharmacy Technology Program at Cerritos College.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished colleagues, please join me in honoring Councilmember Hal Malkin for his many years of service and dedication to the City of La Mirada and the community. Let us wish him and his family the very best in retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 30, 2011

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 194, had I been present, I would have voted "no."

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 2011 BLUE AND GOLD BANQUET FOR CUB SCOUT PACK 976

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 30, 2011

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2011 Blue and Gold Banquet for Cub Scout Pack 976.

The Boy Scouts were founded in the United States on February 8, 1910 by William D. Boyce when he incorporated the Boy Scouts of America. The following year, the BSA adopted the Scout Oath and the Scout Law. After over one hundred years of scouting, these founding principles have guided over

one hundred million BSA youth members to be trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent.

Each year, Cub Scout packs commemorate scouting and its enduring principles with a Blue and Gold Banquet. The pack celebrates scouts, pack leaders and other adults who have contributed to the pack's health and vibrancy. I would like to extend my personal congratulations to the following Cub Scouts in Pack 976 who will be recognized at the 2011 Blue and Gold Banquet for advancing to the next level of scouting.

The Order of the Arrow is awarded to scouts that best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives. The following individuals are being awarded the Order of the Arrow this evening.

Chris Arcangeli, John Cheng, Hank Reinhardt, Cyrus Robinson, Holden Snyder, Nicolas Bocock, Nicholas Baltas, Jack Heerink, Charlie McGarry, Noah Strike, Danny Flood, Austin Gillmore, Salim Roustom.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the Boy Scouts of America, their one hundred year anniversary and the 2011 Blue and Gold Banquet for Cub Scout Pack 976. The BSA sets a high standard for integrity and strength of character. I admire all scouts who seek to uphold the BSA core principles, and extend my sincere best wishes to the Cub Scouts of Pack 976 as they strive to realize their scouting potential.

HONORING MR. RAYMON P. DONES

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 30, 2011

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of one of the nation's first and greatest African-American construction project developers, Mr. Raymon P. Dones. A loving husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, great great-grandfather and friend, Mr. Dones was also a talented entrepreneur, businessman, inventor and civil rights trailblazer. With Mr. Dones' passing at the age of 92, we are reminded of his life's journey and the joyful legacy he inspired.

Born in 1918, Mr. Dones learned the electrical and plumbing trades while working as a Pullman car porter in Denver, Colorado. After earning his electrical contracting license, he founded Dones Electric, which later became incorporated as Aladdin Electric in Oakland, California. Mr. Dones' broad interests also included inventing. He received a U.S. patent for the design of a loud speaker enclosure in 1964.

In the mid-1960s, Mr. Dones became a leading force in advocating for minority contractors and their employees. Working with Joe Debro and Frank Poole, he helped found a group to fight for increased opportunities for minority contractors, which later became the National Association of Minority Contractors (NAMC). In 1969, Mr. Dones was elected NAMC president and Mr. Debro became executive director.

Today the nonprofit trade association boasts chapters in 49 states, as well as England, South Africa and the Virgin Islands. Mr. Dones

was also instrumental in establishing Project Upgrade, one of the first construction trades apprenticeship training programs in the United States. In the Bay Area, Mr. Dones participated in building or subcontracting a considerable part of Oakland's landscape, including the MORH and Acorn housing developments in West Oakland, the West Oakland Health Center and the early construction of Oakland City Center.

Even into his late 80s, Mr. Dones continued to volunteer in the community and work with his son, my good friend Alan, who followed his footsteps as a leader in minority contracting and development. A recipient of many accolades throughout his career, Mr. Dones was named one of the most influential people in the construction industry by Engineering News-Record Magazine in 1999.

Ray was a Renaissance Man. As a Capitol Hill staffer for former Congressman and Mayor Ron Dellums during the 70s and 80s, I remember how Ray came to Washington, D.C. to educate staff regarding the importance of minority business participation. He was a tireless advocate and knew how to influence public policy on behalf of minority contractors. We became close friends and Ray and his beloved late wife, Inez, also became some of my longstanding supporters as an elected official. His smile and kind words of support always gave me encouragement and inspiration to continue the fight. I will miss this great warrior tremendously.

In addition to his notable career and influence, Mr. Dones was a proud husband to the late Inez Dones, and father to their extensive family. The couple both came to their union with three children from prior relationships, and had two more children together. Mr. Dones will be deeply missed by his surviving children, and a host of grandchildren, loved ones and friends.

Today, California's 9th Congressional District salutes and honors a great human being, Mr. Raymon P. Dones. The contributions he made to others throughout his life are countless and precious. My thoughts and prayers are with his loved ones. May his soul rest in peace.

IN TRIBUTE TO CSC(SW) OSCAR FLORES ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 30, 2011

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Chief Culinary Specialist (Surface Warfare) Oscar Flores in honor of his retirement from the United States Navy. Chief Culinary Specialist Oscar Flores has provided 23 years of faithful and devoted service to the United States Navy and to the citizens of our country.

Since 1988, Chief Culinary Specialist Flores has been dedicated to the U.S. Navy and their mission to protect the United States and her citizens. He started as a Mess Management Specialist, and as Chief Culinary Specialist Flores always went above and beyond the line of duty, he rose through the ranks to Chief Petty Officer. With his talents and exceptional culinary skills, Chief Culinary Specialist Flores has provided outstanding service to the Clin-

ton family. His energy and dedication have been a tribute to the first family and his country.

Additionally, Chief Culinary Specialist Flores earned the dignified title of the Commanding Officer's Chef while aboard the USS *Fort Fisher* (LSD 40) as Galley Watch Captain and aboard the USS *Essex* (LHD 2) as Wardroom Supervisor. On shore, Chief Culinary Specialist Flores has proven his loyal leadership as Petty Officer in charge of BEQ/BOQ Operations at Naval Submarine Base Point Loma, CA. I also recognize Chief Culinary Specialist Flores for his many decorations and awards including the Presidential Service Badge, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, and numerous individual, unit and campaign ribbons.

Chief Culinary Specialist Flores represents the best of what our Nation has to offer and has demonstrated exemplary and laudable service while on the Presidential Food Service Staff at the White House as Chef and Personal Enlisted Aide to the President.

Chief Culinary Specialist Flores' tireless work ethic will be missed by the U.S. Navy, though his strong commitment continues as a Personal Chef, Personal Aide, and Director of Operations at the Clinton Residence.

I am honored to congratulate Chief Culinary Specialist Flores on the occasion of his retirement and further extend my gratitude for his many faithful years of service to the United States Navy.

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 23RD AMENDMENT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 30, 2011

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the ratification of the 23rd Amendment to the United States Constitution, which granted the citizens of the District of Columbia the right to vote for President and Vice President. This victory fifty years ago was one of the early victories in the long and continuing struggle of District of Columbia residents for equal rights as American citizens. The 23rd Amendment provided the District of Columbia with three electors for President and Vice President, allowing D.C. residents to vote for the nation's highest offices for the first time since the city was created as the nation's capital.

Only two Members of Congress, Representative JOHN DINGELL and Senator DANIEL INOUE, remain in office from the period of introduction and ratification of the 23rd Amendment, when both were members of the House of Representatives. I was away at college then, but it was clear that an important catalyst for the amendment was the birth of the civil rights movement with the Birmingham bus boycott. The civil rights movement was key in moving Congress to afford the presidential and vice presidential votes to the citizens of the nation's capital, which had become a majority African American city at that time.

The original joint resolution, H.J. Res. 757, was reported favorably by the House Committee on the Judiciary on June 9, 1960. The accompanying report made clear that the